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October 1, 2001

By Hand Delivery

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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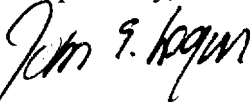
Re: *Ex Parte* Submission
WTB Docket No. 01-108

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to the Commission's rules, this letter submits a recent newspaper article highlighting ATX Technologies' vehicle safety system. In the report, which is attached, ATX, the Tarrant County, Texas 911 District, and the National Emergency Number Association have commenced a pilot project where vehicles with the ATX system will be able to notify emergency personnel within seconds of an accident with such information as the vehicle's location, injuries, whether seat belts were engaged and whether air bags had been deployed. Such information is critical toward providing an informed and expeditious emergency response.

This project reflects the commitment by ATX to provide critical health, safety and emergency services in the vehicle environment. As ATX has conveyed to the Commission's staff in the context of the above proceeding, the digital environment does not provide capability and reliability in the transmission of voice/data that is the cornerstone of telematics services in assuring expeditious response to individuals in emergencies. The current AMPS standard and its technical rules, such as channelization and wave polarization, are a critical part of telematics. Moreover, telematics is dependent upon ubiquitous coverage, which does not exist in the digital environment.

Respectfully,



John E. Logan

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Attachment

Copy provided to:

David Furth, Senior Legal Advisor, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Jeffrey Steinberg, Deputy Chief, Commercial Wireless Division
Jay Jackson, Senior Engineer, Commercial Wireless Division

September 21, 2001, Friday FINAL EDITION

SECTION: METRO; FORT WORTH & REGION; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 450 words

HEADLINE: 911 district tests crash-aid program

BYLINE: ANNA M. TINSLEY; Star-Telegram Staff Writer

HIGHLIGHT:

EMERGENCIES: Local emergency workers will get quick information on car-crash victims under a new program being tested by the Tarrant County 911 District.

BODY:

FORT WORTH - Motorists in distress would get quicker emergency assistance under a pilot program under way in the Tarrant County 911 District.

Under the program, local police, firefighters or paramedics would be notified within seconds of a car crash or other crisis with such information as the vehicle's location, injuries and whether seat belts were worn or air bags deployed.

A special system installed in the vehicles would relay the information, officials said. The 911 district began working this month to automatically connect emergency workers to the private information system operated by Irving-based **ATX Technologies**.

"We're really excited about being chosen to participate in this," said Bill Munn, executive director of the 911 district, which serves Tarrant County, Irving and Grand Prairie. "This will put us two steps ahead of everybody else."

The pilot project includes the 911 district, ATX and the National Emergency Number Association, which represents 911 call-takers.

The system, known as automatic collision notification, connects motorists to private operators who then notify the appropriate emergency agency. Under the pilot program, emergency workers would join in immediately through a conference call, officials said.

Tarrant County 911 officials are working to develop a way to connect ATX and local emergency officials simultaneously to the vehicle.

"Right now, it's up to [ATX] to determine what public safety agency responds to the call," Munn said. "We're looking to find a way where we can add on an appropriate emergency worker so it's a three-way conversation."

ATX is a private company that provides services that range from automatic collision notification to MayDay Response, in which a

panic button in cars allows motorists to activate a voice channel and talk to emergency personnel, said Gary Wallace, ATX vice president for external affairs.

"Now, with this test with Tarrant County, we can get [emergency workers] virtually there," Wallace said. "The medical technician doesn't even have to be in the 911 center - we've bridged their call to us directly into the vehicle."

Fort Worth was chosen as a test site along with the Greater Harris County 911 Emergency Network in Houston, Wallace said.

The Tarrant County 911 District will serve as a test lab for many services the company will eventually provide nationwide, Wallace said.

ATX serves about 300,000 subscribers, including those who own cars made by Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Ford, Jaguar, Lincoln and the Infiniti division of Nissan, officials said.

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